



NATIONAL CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

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POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION

February 23, 2018

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Nanci Langley
Commissioner Mark Acton
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the hundreds of religious charities we represent, the National Catholic Development Conference urges you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on our members and their ability to support their missions.

Most of our members rely on mail for the majority of their fundraising. They operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year. So, if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, they will be forced to greatly reduce their mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on the services they provide and the people who depend on these services.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will force members to close down programs, cut services and reduce the number of those in need whom they can serve in drastically. Our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, especially children, will be at risk.

Please do the right thing. Reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sr. Georgette Lehmuth', followed by a stylized flourish.

Sr. Georgette Lehmuth, OSF
President and CEO